

## Keta River

On 7/25/77 Dennis Hubartt and I flew from Juneau to Ketchikan via Alaska Airlines (17:00-17:55). At Ketchikan we chartered a flight to the mouth of the Keta River via Tyee Air Charters (18:30-19:00). We were met there by Doug Parkinson and Joe ~~for~~. We made camp a short distance upstream.

On Tues. 7/26 we went up to Hill Creek via air, boat, and a miserable hike. Approx. 200 yds upstream from Hill Creek or approx. 100 yds up from the mouth of a side channel, we established a surface and subsurface drift net station in the tail of a pool on Keta River. Also on 7/26 we located and photographed a female sockeye salmon in a pool of a side channel in the major braided section of Keta River. A count of the salmon in the river on this date by Dennis and I was approx. 8,000 fish, about 70% chum salmon and 30% pink salmon. Approx. 20 king salmon were also observed. Many more chum salmon were also in the side channels and tributary streams, and much spawning activity was observed. This had obviously been going on for 1-2 weeks, as many dead and spent fish were observed. Bears had been feeding fairly often along the stream, but we only saw one brown bear and one black bear (cinnamon color).

On Wed. 7/27 we returned to the drift net station above Hill Creek and picked through the samples - putting them in vials of stream water. We also took two Surber samples from the same location and treated them as above. We transferred the drift nets to Hill Creek and set up a double (surface and subsurface) station approx. 25 yds from the mouth, in the tail of a pool on Hill Creek. Two Surber samples were taken from Hill Creek at this time, and Dennis and Joe took the samples down to the mouth where Dennis caught a charter plane to Ketchikan ( ). Doug and I remained in the Hill Creek area and took two Surber samples from Hill Creek (near mouth) and two Surber samples from Keta River in the area of our upstream drift net station. These samples were preserved in alcohol for later I.D. in Juneau. On our way back downstream we observed a jack chum salmon 14" long in a side channel.

On Thurs. 7/28 Doug, Joe and I returned to Hill Creek and picked two samples from our drift nets. We also took two more Surber samples, and all four samples were put in glass vials of water for heavy metal analysis.

On our way downstream we stopped at a riffle next to our old campsite from our 6/1-6/3/77 trip. Here we took four Surber samples, two for heavy metal analysis and two for I.D. We then returned to camp where I packed and met a Weber air charter (20:00-20:50) to Ketchikan. In Ketchikan Dennis and I picked over our samples and put them in the drying oven with the samples Dennis flew out the previous day.

We stayed at Steve Haavig's overnight. The next day (Fri. 7/29) I went to the Ketchikan office to monitor the drying of our samples while Dennis went to Traitor's Cove to investigate some logging road construction.

Friday evening we missed the ferry to the airport, so we took a Saturday flight on Alaska Airlines to Juneau via Sitka. Arrived Juneau approx. 18:00 Sat 7/30.